TRAVANCORE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

FOURTH COUNCIL.

FIRST SESSION OF 1106.

(OFFICIAL REPORT).

Friday, the 7th August 1931/22nd Karkatakam 1106.

The Council met in the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, at Eleven-thirty of the Clock, the President presiding.

The following members were absent.

1. Mr. I. C. Chacko.
2. Mr. S. Krishna Pillai.
3. Mr. K. I. Kocheeppan Mappila.
4. Mr. L. J. T. Polgreen
5. Mr. R. S. Subrahmanya Pillai.
6. Mr. C. N. Tuppan Namputiripad.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

Ferry Service at Mankuzhi.

87. **MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN** (*Mavelikara cum Kartikapalli*) : With reference to the answer given to Mr. G. Raman Menon's interpellation asked at the meeting of the Council held on the 30th November 1927 (*vide* page 1 of Vol. XII of the Council Proceedings), will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any encouragement is now being given to the private ferry service at Mankuzhi ;

(*b*) whether there is any assurance that the private ferry service there will be regular ; and

(*c*) the result of the reference to the Executive Engineer about the construction of the bridge ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) No.

(*b*) No assurance can be given by Government. So long as it is profitable to the ferry men, the private ferry can be expected to continue.

(*c*) The Executive Engineer is of opinion, and Government agree with it, that the question of constructing a bridge at Mankuzhi crossing need be considered only after the Haripad-Veeyapuram road and the road from the 37th mile, Quilon-Alleppey road up to Mankuzhi crossing are improved and opened for cart traffic,

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MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Are the Government aware that this ferry is on a road which is used by a large section of the public?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): It is only a village road and it is used by the people of the locality.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Are the Government aware that a large number of students reading in the High School at Karuvatta have to go by this road?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): There is no definite information about the number of people using this road.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Are the Government aware that the fact was brought to the notice of Government in this very House that this road is being used by a large number of people?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Now there is a private ferry and the Government at that time said that it is better to leave the matter as it is.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): When that road is to be used by a large section of the people, is it right that the poor innocent pupils of the school should be at the mercy of the private ferry man?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): What is it that the member wants now? Is it a public ferry or a bridge?

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): I want to draw the attention of the Government that the necessity for a Government ferry service was brought to their notice about 4 years ago. May I know whether anything has been done in pursuance of that?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The reply that was then given was that the policy of the Government was to encourage private enterprise as far as possible.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Am I to understand by this answer that Government have made up their mind as to the establishment of a Government ferry at the locality since they want private enterprise to come forward?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): The member is perfectly entitled to draw his own inference. Anyhow that was the reply given at that time. Further I may say the question of constructing a bridge was engaging the attention of the Government and the necessity for a public ferry was never raised.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara* cum *Kartikapalli*): Will not the Government consider the feasibility of having a public ferry until the bridge is constructed?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): That will be considered.

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